WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A label stock comprising in order at least one pragmatic sheet, a pressure sensitive adhesive and a compliant carrier sheet.
- The label stock of claim 1 wherein said compliant carrier sheet will recover to 90% of original thickness after compression of between 25 and 50% of original thickness.
- 3. The label stock of claim 1 wherein said compliant carrier sheet recovers 95% of the original thickness in less than 2 seconds after removal of load.
- 4. The label stock of claim 1 wherein said compliant carrier sheet comprises at least one voided layer.
- 5. The label stock of claim 1 wherein said compliant carrier sheet comprises a polyester polymer sheet having at least one voided layer.
- 6. The label stock of claim 1 wherein said compliant carrier sheet comprises a voided layer adjacent said adhesive.
- 7. The label stock of claim 6 wherein said compliant carrier sheet comprises a release layer between said adhesive and said voided layer.
- 8. The label stock of claim 1 wherein said compliant carrier sheet has a compliant factor of between 20 and 100 micrometers measured at 1.2 MPa.
- 9. The label stock of claim 1 wherein said compliant carrier sheet has a modulus of at least 2500 MPa.

- 10. The label stock of claim 1 wherein said compliant carrier sheet is reflective to collimated light energy.
- 11. The label stock of claim 1 wherein said compliant carrier sheet has a surface resistivity of less than 10^{12} ohms per square.
- 12. The label stock of claim 1 wherein said adhesive has a thickness of between 12 and 25 micrometers.
- 13. The label stock of claim 1 wherein said at least one pragmatic sheet comprises a thermal dye receiver layer.
- 14. The label stock of claim 1 wherein said at least one pragmatic sheet has a bulk modulus of between 2000 and 100,000 MPa.
- 15. The label stock of claim 1 wherein said at least one pragmatic sheet comprises cellulose paper.
- 16. The label stock of claim 1 wherein said at least one pragmatic sheet is substantially transparent.
- 17. The label stock of claim 1 wherein said at least one pragmatic sheet comprises a gelatin layer adjacent to said adhesive.
- 18. The label stock of claim 1 wherein said compliant sheet is provided with a thermal dye receiving layer on the side opposite to said adhesive.
- 19. The label stock of claim 1 wherein said compliant sheet is provided with an ink jet receiving layer on the side opposite to said adhesive

- 20. A method of forming labels comprising providing a label stock comprising in order at least one pragmatic sheet, a pressure sensitive adhesive and a compliant carrier sheet, thermal dye transfer printing a label image on said pragmatic sheet, cutting said label image, and removing matrix material from said label images.
- 21. The method of claim 20 wherein cutting said label is performed with a laser cutter.
- 22. The method of claim 20 wherein cutting said label is performed with a reciprocating X-Y cutter.
- 23. The method of claim 20 wherein cutting said image does not cut said compliant sheet.
- 24. The method of claim 20 wherein cutting said image cuts to a depth of less than 5 micrometers.